



Abbotsford Minor Baseball Association

'Mini' Annual General Meeting **AGENDA**

**Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 6:30 @ Agrec Building 1 Mezzanine -
32470 Haida Dr.**

Call to Order: 6:34 PM

Quorum Met: 37 (8 board members)

1. *Presidents Welcome - Rob Brandsma*

- Rob introduced himself and thanked all the members who have stepped up and helped. We are still hoping to broaden our volunteer group to lighten the load for the current volunteers. Thanks to Ashely Copeman, Julie Korstrom, Cindy Bailey for their service to AMBA and the countless hours they have poured in. Thanks to Angel Baugard for all her secretary duties as well.
- We had a record number of registrations through spring and fall season. We hope that 2024 will prove to be even better registration. This year we are hoping to focus on core development for players and coaches.
- Thanks to the Umpire-in-chief and umpire coordinator Jim VanMeer and Melissa Dahlen for the amazing work.
- Thanks to all the executive who have stepped up. We want to be transparent, approachable, and available to all our members, these are volunteer position, and they are not paid for.

2. *Treasurers Report - Mike Pratt*

- Registration: We have been able to keep registration fairly level over the last few years but with inflation and costs getting more expensive we need to look at adjusting registration accordingly.
- Breakdown of costs for the Years:
 - City Fields - \$28,500
 - MVP - \$46438 (Baseball equipment, Jerseys, Hats etc.)
 - Umpires - \$37,500 - We covered the registration fees for the umpires, but because of this we were able to double the number of umpires we had this year. We would also like to focus on developing the umpires.
 - Team Snap - \$4500 per year to use that application. We have not been using it to its fullest potential, but we will be having a new website up and running soon. Updates, registration, website, finances will all be run through team snap.
- Gaming Funds: \$40,000 What we are going to do with it is reimburse our operation account. (umpire fees will take the majority) and possibly buy fences but this has to be approved by the gaming grant first.
- *Question from the floor:*

Can the money from gaming grant be used for team bats? We have a stock of bats still in the lock up that can be available if coaches want them. We have not purchased any recently as we have found that most kids come with their own bat already.
- Is any budgeting put forth to put towards facilities? We have addressed this as executive to get a building in place. Challenges are land and the gaming grant would only be allowed to put \$20,000 towards it so a lot of that money would come from our pockets. The long-term vision is hard when board turnover is so high. City does

have some plans as well, so we are waiting to see what they are going to do and what they are willing to pay for.

Blue Jays care did provide us with some funding to fix the field at Delair but it was restricted and we had a certain amount of time to spend that. Sadly, we lost that grant because we didn't spend that money and we didn't spend it on time. The city also said they might be repurposing the field, so it was hard to want to spend the money if the field was going to be gone. We will be applying for it again. It is approximately 50-60K.

3. Directors Reports

1. Director 1 (7u-11u) - Brad Nedimovich

- The spring and fall past season went quite well. Another highlight was the valley of champions tourney in Kelowna. All teams that went placed. We will be working with the city to make sure we are adequate for parks in the years to come. We are looking for volunteers for our barn sessions coming up especially the younger years we get a lot of turn out.

2. Director 2 (13u-18u) - Derek Giesbrecht

- Commissioners will be returning so thank you! Very strong teams all around this past spring and summer season. Challenger was also a huge success. We are always looking for teams and families to get involved as buddies. Huge thanks to all the commissioners you worked hard to make this last year a huge success.

3. Director 3 (Fields & Equipment) - Shaun Fulton

- Responsible for fields, equipment, and uniforms. This year we have 3 new volunteers: Hoyt Deglan - Fields, Joe Meleg – equipment and Jenni Riou - uniforms. They have done incredible job stepping in so a huge thank you. We are slowly trying to replace all the older equipment (catching gear) and some of the other older equipment.

4. Director 4 (Sponsorship)- Brad Rosse

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Introduction of himself. We have people and companies interested in funding long term right now, but we are not sure where and how to spend that money yet until we know the cities plans and what they are willing to spend money on.

5. Director 5 (Risk Management)- Lauren Meinen

- Oversaw making sure all fields have first aid kits. She also took registrar on this year as we didn't have someone to fill that role. It went well this year.

General Business:

1. Summary of the 2023 Season:

We feel overall it was a successful season with over 650 registrants. We had great representation at the provincial level for multiple teams. We want as many kids as possible to play baseball. We choose not to cap registration so we can allow as many

Directors

Kids as possible to play so we are thankful for all the coaches and parent volunteers that have stepped up.

2. Outlook for coming year:

- Tidy up some of our inefficiencies and look for more volunteers to lighten our load.

Some high priority items for the board this year are the following:

1. Revamp of Abby Baseball Branding and Vision Statement – Change the logo - get rid of the wing logo and switch to the 'A' with the Halo.

2. Update of Website – Mike Pratt is working on this through team snap.
3. Increase of Registration fees (1st increase in over 5 years) – Due to inflation and cost of equipment and field rental costs. We will be looking at about a 15% increase which would equate to your \$40- 50 per registration.
4. Technical Director to help with Coach and Player development. – Todd Belanger is willing to help take this role on and help develop coaches and players. He will be running a coaches training session before we get into the winter barn training session, and we are encouraging anyone who wants to coach or help to come to this session. This will be paid positions he will present us with something and will have to be voted on.
5. City of Abby Field and Park plans - Rob was in a zoom meeting with the city of Abbotsford and the mill lake park plan (it is a 5-20 year plan). Rob has been diligent in being involved in the planning around a field re-purpose strategy. Hopefully we can be heard. Rob encouraged everyone to go to 'letstalk abbotsford' and they have a survey about the mill lake plan that expires on the 5th or you can email council and they will forward to parks department. Or email Melissa Pryce and you can direct comments or questions to her.
6. Volunteers – Huge thank you to all who stepped up and helped this year. Thank you for your undivided time and effort.

Motion: To move Rob Brandsma into the president position. Approved: Voted in by acclamation

Motion: To approve Mike Pratt as Treasurer Approved: Voted in by acclamation

VP1 - Board Position – Still remains open

VP2 - Board Position –

Motion put forward for Brad Nedimovich Approved: Voted in by acclamation

Director one position –

Motion put forward for Colin Dawes Approved: Voted in by acclamation

Registrar – Vanessa Peters accepted this position.

Tournament Committee Lead – Chesley and Johnny P accepted this position

Webmaster / Marketing / PR – Remains open

League Commissioner / Coordinator – 11U Aislyn McConnell, 9U/5U Johnny

Scheduling Coordinator – Steph Deglan accepted this position

Prize Draw: Amanda Checuti for free registration